I strongly **OPPOSE** bill H.B. 5653! I am retired on a fixed income and a veteran. I enjoy participating in trap shooting weekly, hunting, and target shooting. Since covid the price of ammunition has increased significantly! With the over all cost of living it has put an increased burden on my pension and savings.

According to an article in the Hartford Current Feb. 19, front page titled "Mayors take on repeat felons" the majority of gun crime in Connecticut is committed by repeat felons (according to **Ct. State law** prohibits these people from owning or purchasing firearms and or ammunition). This should make it obvious that H.B. 5653 is nothing more than a sin tax already on top of Connecticut's burdensome taxes on law abiding citizens and will do nothing to curve gun violence in Connecticut.

Respectfully, Harvey Naeser Ashford, Ct.